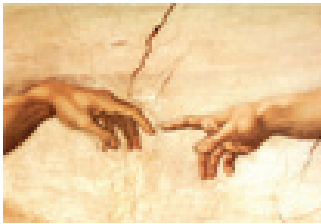


Never been an atheist?

Prof's upcoming speech to address philosopher Kierkegaard
■ News, Page 4



Dance the night away

UTM Dance Ensemble held its spring performance last week
■ A&E, Page 7



Softball takes to the road

Lady 'Hawks win two before dropping home opener
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VOLUME 80
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THE PACER

UTMPACER.COM



Local Chinese buffet robbed; \$20,000 stolen, police say

Jay Baker
Managing/News Editor

Police say a thief used a power saw to cut through a filing cabinet lock and made away with about \$20,000 in cash from a Martin Chinese restaurant popular with college students.

Martin Police haven't named a suspect, but on Monday were investigating the burglary at the Dragon Buffet—known for its deeply discounted all-you-can-eat buffet—in the University Plaza shopping center that happened Sunday morning.

Dragon Buffet workers told police that an unidentified individual entered the restaurant's office at about 10 a.m. on Sunday, while all the employees were in the kitchen preparing food.

The restaurant did not open until 10:30 a.m. on Sunday.

The individual used a Skil brand reciprocating saw to cut the lock off of a file cabinet and made away with a purse containing the cash, several Social Security cards and U.S. Immigration permanent resident cards, also called "green cards."

According to the police report, the restaurant's owner, who was not named in the report, locked the cabinet and shut the office door but left the front door unlocked.

When she returned, she noticed the office door left open and found the purse missing.

The saw was left at the scene and taken into evidence, police said.

Ting Lin, manager of the restaurant, confirmed information in the police report but would not comment or elaborate on the burglary, citing the ongoing investigation.



Martin Police say a thief robbed Dragon Buffet about 10 a.m. Sunday using a reciprocating saw. (Pacer Photos/Paula Kennedy)

UTM may face 'challenges' from bill on downloading

Matt Cook
Executive Editor

Legislation passed last week by the Tennessee Senate that would require Tennessee universities to monitor and prevent students and faculty from illegally downloading copyrighted material would force UT Martin's Information Technology Services to add to its current hardware systems and possibly increase its staff, Chief Information Officer and Assistant Vice Chancellor Shannon Burgin said.

The bill—currently a calendarated budget item for the state Finance, Ways and Means Committee's next meeting—must be passed by the House and signed by Gov. Phil Bredesen before being enacted.

Burgin said that there will be some challenges to the state's universities to implement monitoring systems. "There is always a cost for something like this, and if the requirements are this heavy, [UTM] would be adding some new devices to filter downloading," Burgin said.

Burgin said that it was unclear at this point if UTM would add additional staff to help monitor illegal downloading.

"Until they iron things out, it's really hard to tell if we will [have to hire additional staff]," Burgin said. Tennessee universities rank among the top in the nation for illegal music and video downloading using the popular peer-to-peer file-sharing protocol.

The University of Tennessee at Knoxville ranks fourth nationally in terms of illegal music downloading, according to the most recent statistics from the Recording Industry Association of America, a record label trade group.

The bill as amended requires institutions with 50 or more notices of copyright infringement on its networks in a one-year period to submit a report outlining what steps they will take to curb illegal downloading.

SGA candidates prepare for April elections

Will York
Senior Reporter

Two newly formed political parties filed paperwork on Friday to take control of the Student Government Association executive council.

Students will also vote on a referendum to abolish the \$8.50 per semester yearbook fee, replacing it with a \$7 student publications fee, when they go to the polls April 15-16.

The Action Party is led by Brittany McGruder, who is that party's nominee for student body president, and the Engage Party is led by presidential nominee Lorie Mallari.

McGruder represents the College of Business and Public Affairs in the SGA Senate and is the Senate Communications Committee chairwoman and a student trustee for the University of Tennessee system.

Action advocates creating a Senate Student Affairs Committee to work with university offices at the interface with the Division of Student Affairs, make efforts to make the UT Martin campus more environmentally friendly, streamline SGA communication and lobby for reform to the HOPE lottery scholarship, according to the platform filed with the SGA Election Commission and released Monday.

Eric Lipford, chairman of the Senate Campus Observation Committee, is Action's vice presidential nominee, and Rebecca Weaver, chairwoman of the Multicultural Affairs Committee, is the party's secretary-general nominee.

Mallari's Engage Party touts a four-point plan for bringing more UTM students into the political process, including

starting a "spirit night" to boost participation in athletic events, working to establish job interview workshops and internship fairs, promoting SGA's presence at Homecoming and the annual Soybean Festival and improving accountability of student money.

Nicholas Lewis, Procedures Committee chairman and senator for the College of Agriculture and Applied Sciences, is running as Engage's vice presidential candidate, and Heather McClean is the party's secretary-general nominee.

The Engage Party—as part of their financial accountability plan—mentions that students should have a voice in how a proposed technology fee increase is spent, receive their copies of *The Spirit* yearbook on time and have adequate chances to obtain fee-funded travel-study scholarships.

The Action Party wants to work more closely with fraternities, the student recreation center director and student organizations to "enrich the lives of students." Action also wants to add SGA to the Blackboard online communication system to make students' communications with senators easier.

McGruder, who is running at the top of Action's ticket, is double majoring in economics and Spanish.

She cites her experience on the Board of Trustees as critical and indicative of how she'd lead SGA.

"By getting a first-hand look at the inner workings of this university and this system (as a trustee), I can tell you that there are problems," McGruder said. "But we, as a student

— See 'SGA' on Page 5

ACTION Party

Party Platform Highlights

- Work with legislature to improve the Tenn. Lottery Scholarship
- Improve communication between SGA and student body
- Enhance and improve campus facilities' appearance



Brittany McGruder



Eric Lipford



Rebecca Weaver

ENGAGE Party

Party Platform Highlights

- Voter registrations drives
- Sprit Nights at athletic games
- Increase SGA representation to satellite campuses
- Engage in the inquiry of student fee allocation



Lorie Mallari



Nicholas Lewis



Heather McLean

Presidential Candidates

Vice Presidential Candidates

Secretary General Candidates



Food fair kicks off weeklong international festivities

Whitney Sullivan
Pacer Writer

Given the chance to have lunch around the world—and for just a few dollars—hundreds of students squeezed into the UC on Monday for the International Cafe.

The cafe was the 33rd international food fair, which has been held every year since the Office of International Programs and Admissions was created. Authentic plates of food

from the Middle East, Asia, Latin America and Europe—cooked by UTM international students—sold for \$1 to \$3 apiece.

Not only could the more than 350 students, faculty and staff smell the food throughout the UC, they could also hear world sounds.

Dr. Julie Hill and the UTM Percussion Ensemble played traditional music from some of the countries represented at the fair.

UTM international

students and the Office of International Programs and Admissions prepared, served and sold the food.

National flags, names of the represented countries and 'welcome' written in many different languages on massive sheets covered the walls in the ballroom. Tables lining the walls were decorated with signs with food names and prices. The money raised went back to the students who prepared the meals to cover food expense, said John

Mathenia, an international programs instructor who helped organize the event.

"The drum circle was very popular last year, and we are pleased that Dr. Hill and her group were able to play again this year," Mathenia said.

The international cafe began as a way for American-born UTM students to learn about other cultures.

"It is something we really

— See 'Food' on Page 6

TUESDAYWEATHER

59 38
Tomorrow, partly cloudy with a high of 59, low 49.
Thursday, scattered thunderstorms and a high of 64.

INSIDE

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FREETHINKER'S SOCIETY

New club on campus created to provide safe environment for secular discussion

TN LEADERS DEBATE LOWERING GPA

Legislature faces three different choices for changing Tennessee Lottery Scholarship requirements

JUSTBECAUSE

Originally, New Year's Day was April 1. Later, when the Church changed the calendar, some people continued using April 1 as the date of the new year. These people were referred to as "April Fools"

THE PACER

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Our View

Editorial:
Get to know SGA, you pay for it after all

There are new crops of candidates begging, pleading and waiting for you to get to know them enough to feel confident in their abilities to be leaders of UTM's Student Government Association.

It is important that all students on campus pay close attention to the candidates, what proposals are being made to better this campus and what issues appear to be the most significant during the election process. Much like the election that has taken the country by storm, this election is an issue that all students should follow closely because the money from their tuition is being allocated to fund book scholarships, \$400-\$600 stipend a year and about \$15,000 worth of tuition payments for leaders of the organization.

Students pay for these services provided as a perk for the president, vice president and secretary general of SGA, but students need to remember that this money is an investment in their own futures as well as future students who have the privilege to attend this university.

The question is not "why should I care," but rather, students should focus their attention more on "why shouldn't I care" because in how many other situations in life is it appropriate to pay for services that are not beneficial for the consumer? Students on this campus are still reeling at the \$8.50 being charged for a yearbook that many have not seen yet; so, wouldn't it be a wise decision to pay a closer attention to something well over \$15,000 in value?

We at *The Pacer* want to remind all students that the need to focus on SGA elections is a necessary one because the leaders that are elected can control the quality of life on this campus as well as a substantial budget. Students pay for our newspaper out of their student activities fee, and it would be absurd for our staff to do a lack luster job in the eyes of the student body because that would be an inefficient means of spending their money.

Be alert, be involved and, most importantly, be aware of the entire election process because it is an important time to ensure that your vision of this campus becomes a reality through your personal understanding of the candidates and voting accordingly. Otherwise, why even complain about tuition hikes, parking ticket fine increases or yearbooks that never arrive when you only demonstrate how "a fool is easily parted with his money"?

THE PACER

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Editorial Policy

Opinions expressed in personal columns are those of the writers and may not reflect the opinions of the staff as a whole. Editorials are written by members of the Editorial Board, with contributions from other students, campus administrators or community members on an as-issue basis.

The Pacer invites student organizations to submit press releases at least two weeks ahead of an event. We cannot guarantee the publication of any submitted letter, release or news story.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Story ideas or news tips may be e-mailed to pacer@utm.edu or presented at our weekly staff meetings, held at 4:15 p.m. every Tuesday during the semester. If you are unable to attend these meetings, please contact the Executive Editor to arrange a separate meeting.

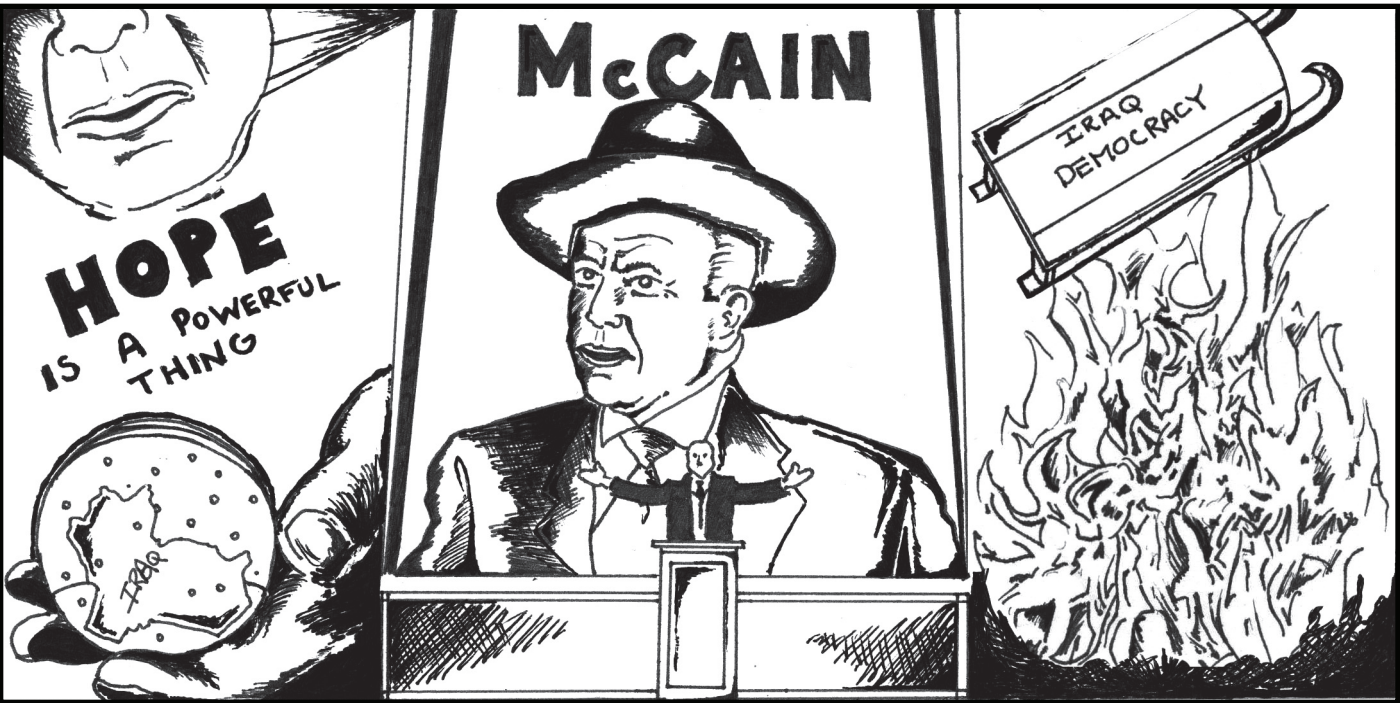
The Pacer welcomes comments, criticisms or ideas that its readership may have. We encourage you to send a Letter to the Editor at 314 Gooch Hall, Martin, TN 38238, through e-mail at pacer@utm.edu or via our Web site at <http://www.utmpacer.com/lettertotheeditor/>. Letters to the Editor should be no longer than 250 words. Letters must contain the name, major and hometown of the author, as well as contact information. Submissions may be edited for grammar, spelling and brevity. Publication preference will be given to letters of less than 250 words.

Columns or Guest Commentaries should be no longer than 750 words and will require a photo of the author. Publication is based on relevance and quality of the issue and publication is subject to the discretion of the Editorial Board

STATEMENT OF PUBLICATION

This newspaper is printed every Tuesday during the semester. Our press run ranges from 2,000 to 5,000 copies depending on the edition. The University of Tennessee at Martin earmarks \$3.60 per enrolled student to pay for staff salaries and overhead costs of running our office. The cost of printing the newspaper is covered by advertising revenue.

The Pummeling Pen



By: Eric White

‘Throw some money on da books’: I’m rich



Charlie McIntosh
Technology Editor

There's no better way to start out the spring than to find out you're going to be filthy rich.

First of all, I just want to say that college is a tub of crap. In a matter of days, I'm going to be filthy rich and none of you suckers will see one red cent of my money.

You're probably wondering why I'm referring to all of you mindless sheep as suckers. Seeing as most of you are ignorant, I'll provide explanation.

Last week I opened my UTM email account to find that, as usual, there was nothing there. No class cancellations, no mind-numbing homework, nada.

Bored, I opened up the filtered "spam" emails that UTM prevents me from going to my inbox because they're "potentially harmful."

Lo and behold, the first "spam" email that I opened was from a Dr. Manut Osaka, a respected surgeon and professor of medicine at the esteemed University of Nigeria.

What I discovered was astounding. Dr. Manut Osaka, a billionaire, requested that I send him a now measly \$50,000 for a

business investment, and he would return the \$6.5 million in spoils to my name and checking account.

All that was required of me was to send \$50,000, give him my checking account number (for deposit), social security, and birth certificate. Here within the next few days, I will be a millionaire.

Who would've thought that the very first email I opened up in Barracuda's filtered "spam" would be the business opportunity of a lifetime!

Of course I had to sell my parent's car for the \$50,000, but when they return from business I'll have all the money needed to purchase them a new car and house.

So now that my tenure at UTM is over, and I no longer need the petty homework assignments, shallow networking, and now meaningless degree offered here, I want to make a few shout-outs to the poor people from my former life:

Lucinda, my once beloved girlfriend: you are trash. If I want love and happiness, I'll buy it. You're no longer economically viable. You're through.

To my Professors: I am now worth more than all of your silly little degrees combined. To hell with the lot of you! I'm rich!

Maybe one day the rest of you can work for me. In the meantime, we'll see you suckers later.

‘I just wanna know where ya gold at’



David Hampton
A&E Editor

Get this: I need a little extra cash, right?

And I get to thinking that there's gotta be some way to make some bank off this whole internet thing.

So I says to myself, 'Dave, just get in on that email scam gig. You throw out enough lines, and somebody's gotta bite.'

That's when I typed up this bogus email that said 'Congratulations, you just inherited \$6.5 million. All's ya gotta do is send 50 grand to me, and I send your money to you.' I said that my name was Manut Osaka, and that I was from Nigeria, for good measure.

I sent it out and just kicked back and waited for payday.

And then, lo and behold, I get an email back from some squeeby college kid. Poor dumb idiot, never saw me coming and I gotta make the benjamins ya know. Make the money at whatever the cost, ya know.

"I received your email in my spam box," he says. "It was a close call, and money's tight, seeing as how I'm a college student, but I did a little hustling."

He goes on and says he's going to sell his car, and then he's going to sell his

old man's car. And get this, to pull this off, he promised his dad a Rolls-Royce one he gets his bank back. Tool.

So now I got this guy who's selling his car, along with his old man's car, just to send me \$50,000. How sweet it is.

So, next time you're strapped for cash, just hit up some stolen emails, invent some phony story about an inheritance and send it out to the masses.

Cause believe you me, the masses are one dumb bunch of patsies.

Better yet, just send your scam to the college crowd, because it don't matter how many books you've read or how fast you can spell.

What matters is street smarts, and that's one thing those college boys just ain't got.

As soon as that 50-G check hits my mailbox, I'm gonna go straight to the bank and take it out in one lump sum of \$1 bills.

And yeah, my street cred's gonna be on the fly now that I'm gonna be makin it rain off the balcony of Gooch Hall.

That's right, when that check clears, come on by and see those leafy greens floatin down from three stories high, then look up to the sky, and you'll see ya boy D-Money flippin out that free money. 'Cause that's what I do, all day.


Peace.

CARTOONY COMMENTARY

BY: ERIC WHITE



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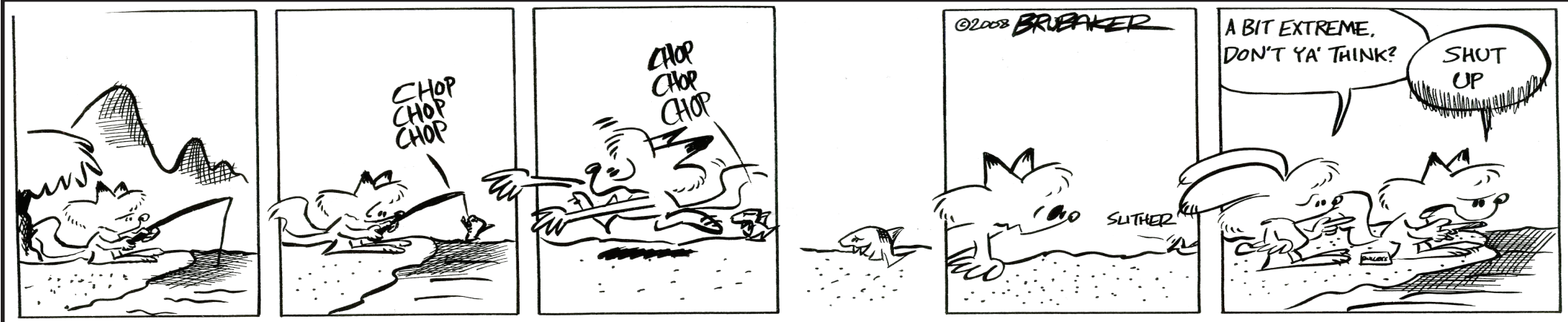


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Technology removes face-to-face interaction



Kirby
McBride
Copy Editor

In times gone by, when someone had a grudge or was mad at another person they just went straight to that person and told them to their face. In today's world of online networking and text messaging there is a change in the way that people are treated in their everyday lives, especially online. Through networking web sites people are able to keep in touch when they move away to college or just move from one state or city to another, not ridicule other people.

Many people use these web sites as a way to leave funny messages or post pictures, and keep in touch when a person leaves. But what happens if you and one of your friends have an argument. A person would think that they would keep the argument off of networking web sites to save the other person embarrassment. But in some cases the angered party only cares about what they have to say, and not what other people will think of them.

Some people will even go so far as breaking up with someone else on the Internet. Why would someone do that? What hap-

pened to being "civil" and doing things delicate like that face-to-face or at least over the phone? I guess in today's world people think that it will be easier and safer for them to accomplish these kinds of things on their networking web sites. In truth it only makes the other person either mad or extremely put out. I know that if someone was mad at me or wanted to break up with me I would rather talk to them face-to-face than have it done over the Internet, and I'm not the best at confrontations.

It seems like everyone would rather stay in their own private bubbles than talk something out. Before the Internet came along that's what people did, they talked things out and came to an agreement that both parties could handle. It seemed to work better that way. I know some people may have to get things off their chests at times, because there is a buildup of tension that needs to have an outlet. But they would feel better, I think if they talked to that person. It would hurt someone's feelings as bad as the weblog would.

If you have to write a blog about what's going on in your life but you feel that it might hurt someone's feelings then make it private where no one else can see it. Or just type it out on your computer and delete

it, you're still getting your feelings out. I learned from an experience of mine that it is best to get things out in the open, not bottle them all up inside. If a person keeps things inside and doesn't want to get them off their chest in any other way than the Internet, then it can makes things even harder for the people involved.

Having seen people who have had other people say their true feelings over these networking sites, I have seen how they really feel. And I know by the way that they talk they are not at all happy over having this done to them. I know that if I was in their position I would rather work something out when I next saw the person instead of having their feelings shown to me over the Internet.

When someone comes to me and tells me that they have a problem with something that I have done, then I would try my best to make what ever was done wrong right. Having a face-to-face conversation with someone gives a more personal feel to what is being said. Saying something over the Internet makes someone feel that they are not cared about enough to have a real conversation.

Even though it might seem like a hard thing to do, try and talk to someone instead of blogging about the issue. It might make things easier for everyone.

Prison story corrected; learn from mistakes

Tomi Parrish
Faculty Adviser

In journalism, mistakes happen to all of us.

If we're good journalists, if we care about our audience and our credibility, then we will take responsibility for those mistakes, knowing full well that the next issue of the paper probably will present us with more.

Case in point: As I explained in a campuswide e-mail last week, the lead story in the March 25 *Pacer* about student inmates at Northwest Correctional Complex in Lake County had some errors in the printed version. The reason the errors were not corrected in the printed version was because they were not caught until the page was already in Jackson.

Thus we updated the Web version to attempt to correct inaccuracies. We were not as successful as we had hoped, and we neglected to update the inaccuracy about English 110 – it is not, I repeat not, a remedial course.

My executive editor was out of town most of the week. Yesterday, he accepted my recommendation that we again correct and update the online version

of the prison story, which can be found at the following link: <http://media.www.utmpacer.com/media/storage/paper1175/news/2008/03/25/CampusNews/Students.Behind.Bars-3281014.shtml>.

I made the recommendation because I teach in my editing class that one of the biggest mistakes any copy editor can make is to insert a mistake into a story. I've done it myself, and corrected it and apologized for it as quickly as possible.

That is what happened with the prison story. The story turned in by the writers was accurate, though it was written more like a press release than a news story. The writers are public relations majors, so they are supposed to write that way. However, in an attempt to make the story more "newsy," mistakes were made in the editing process.

Regardless of how it happened, it should not have happened. The story's sources did exactly the right thing in making their displeasure known to me, and I will do all I can in my world to teach a lesson.

In a separate *Pacer* problem, we received a phone call recently from a person who wanted a name removed from the UTM

police report, which we run every week. In my 12 years at UTM, our policy has changed from running all names, to running no names, and back to running all names in the police report. Actually, the caller also wanted to know if a call from a parent would make a difference.

I have some questions for the caller: Are you 18 or older? Do you ask your parents how to vote, when you can leave the house, or where you should move upon graduation? Are you, or are you not, an adult who is responsible for your own destiny?

It is neither fair nor ethical to remove one name and leave the rest in the report. If you made a mistake, like so many of us do, own up to it, deal with it and get beyond it.

Better yet, go back and look at the prison story. Some of the inmates seemed to know more about good choices than what has been demonstrated around here lately. At least they want an education and know a good thing when they see it. We can all learn from that attitude.

Tomi Parrish is the coordinator of the Office of Student Publications. She has no patience right now.

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something
to say ?

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Atheism, Kierkegaard topics for academic speaker

Amber Niblock
Pacer Writer

“There has never been an atheist.” Those famous words of 19th century Danish thinker Soren Kierkegaard will be the topic of a talk by UT Martin philosophy professor Dr. Norman Lillegard this week. Lillegard will discuss Kierkegaard’s controversial statement—and the reasons he made it—during a discussion at 7:30 p.m. Thursday in the Watkins Auditorium in the UC. “This is not a speech about atheism per se,” Lillegard said. “I will try to explain what he might have meant by that. It seems obviously false.” Lillegard, who is the

past president of the Soren Kierkegaard Society and was formerly the group’s representative to the American Philosophical Association, said Kierkegaard’s idea is that it is difficult to explain the ethical passions of an atheist without bringing God, or something a lot like God, into the picture. Kierkegaard examines these religious questions through ethics and analyses of such phenomena as self-deception, Lillegard said. In the course of trying to make Keirkegaard’s claim plausible, Lillegard intends to familiarize the audience with quotes from French atheist Albert Camus, Hannah Arendt and Flannery O’Connor.

A new student organization, the UTM Freethinkers Society, held its first meeting on Sunday and was developed for students seeking a safe environment to meet, discuss and pursue secular causes and ideology. At its first meeting, the group held a free viewing of the 2005 documentary film “The God Who Wasn’t There,” which examines the evidence that supports the argument against the existence of Jesus. Lillegard said the timing of his speech—part of the universitywide Academic Speaker Series—with the startup of the new student group is coincidental, but he said “it sure would make things more interesting” if a cadre of atheists

participated in his talk on Thursday. Courtney Sowell, the Freethinkers Society president, said the organization has no formal plans to attend the speaker as a group but always encourages the open discussion of topics like the one Lillegard is to discuss. Lillegard is the 2007 winner of the Cunningham Teacher/Scholar Award. He has been a faculty member at UTM since 1989 and has gained the reputation as an international scholar, particularly on the philosophies of Soren Kierkegaard. The lecture is free and open to the public.

New student group safe place for secularism

Jay Baker
Managing/News Editor

Atheists, agnostics, humanists and free thinkers met Sunday night for the first meeting of a student group being created to provide a safe environment for the discussion of secular ideas. “We’re not a bunch of freaks. We’re not satanists or anything like that. We’re just a bunch of nice atheists and agnostics. ... we’re just like everybody else,” said Courtney Sowell, president and one of the founding members of the group. “We’re not out to bash anyone’s religion or anything, just talk about it.”

Sowell said she and fellow member Trey Hamilton felt there was a need for a secular group at UTM to give students a safe place to discuss ideas with like minded individuals. The UTM Web site lists 12 different religious organizations and no secular oriented organizations. Sowell and Hamilton approached Lionel Crews, an instructor in the physics department, to be the faculty advisor. Crews said he supports the efforts of the students and was happy to help them.

“I’m actually a Christian myself. Some may think that’s odd ... but I don’t see any reason why my personal beliefs would make me want to fight against that idea,” said Crews.

Crews helped Sowell and Hamilton create a constitution for the group and submit it for approval. The group currently has temporary status until official approval in April.

Crews said he is excited about the new group and hopes that students will take part in the discussion as well as avoid misunderstanding.

“Being a scientist, I’ve been exposed to atheism for quite a long time. Although I think my personal religious views are quite different from the average religious person, I’m still a Christian. I’m a deacon in the church, I sing in the choir and my children attend sunday school,” said Crews. “I really do think, and maybe I’m wrong about this, that the average UTM student doesn’t really want in their heart for people with different beliefs to feel unwelcome. I think they should support this. I don’t think this is something that everyone should get all worked up about.”

Crews’ wish for there not to be backlash against the new group has been realized so far. Sowell said the only opposition they faced was a few flyers for their first meeting being torn down and crumpled up.

Sowell said the group does not yet have plans for events or activities yet, but hopes that students will get involved, regardless of their beliefs.

“Everyone of any religion is invited to attend,” said Sowell.

Crews agrees. “If you’re atheist, agnostic a free thinker, religious come talk to us, see what we’re about,” said Crews. “I think it would speak well for this university that despite having a vast majority of Christian students that this organization could be accepted.”

The group plans to meet again April 13 at a time and place to be announced. Students interested in attending, joining or participating can e-mail Sowell at coulsowe@utm.edu or find the group on Facebook by searching for “Freethinker’s Society.”

Tenn. leaders debate how to lower lottery GPA

Lucas L. Johnson
AP Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — Democratic House leaders want to lower the cumulative grade point average needed to maintain a lottery scholarship, but they prefer to do it all at once, opposing a Republican plan to phase in the change as well as a plan by the governor.

Under current rules, students must be enrolled full time in college, have a GPA of at least 2.75 after their freshman year and a cumulative 3.0 GPA for subsequent years to keep the scholarship.

Senate Republicans are proposing a plan that would lower the retention GPA to 2.75 through a student’s junior year, starting with this fall’s Freshman class, then bump it back up to 3.0 in the senior year.

Gov. Phil Bredesen is proposing a similar measure that would lower the GPA to 2.75, but begin with this year’s sophomores and phase in over three years.

But House Speaker Jimmy Naifeh of Covington said Thursday he would prefer to lower the GPA to 2.75 for all

years, starting this fall, because he wants as many students to be educated as possible.

Figures released earlier this year by the Tennessee Higher Education Commission showed 50 percent of students lost their lottery HOPE scholarships after their first year in college and 68 percent by their fourth year.

“We’re losing students and that’s why we want to make the 2.75 available to those students who are eligible for a hope scholarship,” said Naifeh, adding that he plans to talk to the governor about his proposal.

Both Bredesen and Senate Republicans have said the phase-in proposals are better because of tight budget projections.

The governor said later Thursday that he’s not trying to get in a fight with the speaker, “but on a whole bunch of things, I’m going to have to find some ways to ease in and save some money.”

“If phasing it in over a period of time makes it a little easier to get where we need to on the budget, then I don’t have a problem with that,” Bredesen said.

Lawmakers have about \$37 million available to them without dipping into the state’s nearly \$410 million in lottery reserves, according to THEC officials. They estimate permanently reducing the retention GPA 2.75 would cost the state \$17 million, nearly half the available funds.

Because of budget concerns, Senate Speaker Ron Ramsey is proposing legislation that would let students with a B-minus average keep their grants with a small reduction in the scholarship amount as an incentive to work back to a B.

Currently, the scholarships are up to \$4,000 for traditional four-year colleges and \$2,000 for two-year institutions.

“It keeps people in school, but also encourages you to get back to a 3.0,” Ramsey said.

Nevertheless, in the case of the retention GPA, the Blountville Republican believes lawmakers on both sides of the aisle are close to an agreement.

“We still have some differences,” he said. “But I think we’re getting close enough now to where there will be a compromise before we get to the end.”

Sociology professor discusses call to education

Tiffany Sanders
Pacer Writer

Nancy Sonleitner is the assistant professor of sociology here at the University of Tennessee at Martin.

Though she has only taught here for seven months, she has already fallen in love with UTM and the students.

“I grew up in the country and this reminds me of back home, so I love it here,” she said. “The water tastes good, the air is clean and the people are so nice and hospitable; I really feel welcomed.”

Sonleitner says she is impressed at how smart and dedicated the students are. “I don’t know how they have time for their families, jobs and do well in school. They have a lot of responsibility on their shoulders, but still strive to be good students.”

She wants her students to grow personally in her classes as well as intellectually. When her students start looking for jobs, she wants them to be prepared for the 21st century work place and be able to think critically and be professionally prepared for the place where they will work

Sonleitner did not always want to teach. She attended the University of Oklahoma for a while shortly after graduating from high school, but ended up dropping out. Some years later, 15 to be exact, she decided to return to the university.

Her decision to go back to school was influenced by a man from Guatemala. He



Sonleitner

came to her church asking for money for gas to drive to the next church down the road where they would again ask for gas money because he and his family wanted to leave the United States to return to Guatemala. He barely spoke English, but he expressed to the church members that he had undergone discrimination from Americans. Once seeing this, and the fact that there was no one in the church who could speak Spanish and communicate with the man, Sonleitner knew she wanted the ability to help people.

She returned to the University of Oklahoma in the mid 80s. Sonleitner said that she came back in full force. She was prepared to study hard and make her grades.

She received her bachelor’s degree in Letters, a liberal education consisting of history, philosophy, literature and a modern foreign language (she studied Latin), and graduated in ‘89 with a 3.9 grade point average.

Continuing her education, she decided to go to graduate school at the University of Oklahoma. While going

to school, she worked as an instructor in the sociology department.

Nearing completion of the PhD, Sonleitner worked with the Oklahoma State Health Department for two years. There she conducted research for the Maternal and Child Health program. She received her doctorate, graduating in 2001.

From 2001-2004 Sonleitner worked as a professor at Zayed University in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE). This is a school that was different from any other school in the country; only Emirati women could enroll. These women were not allowed to leave the country unless a related male chaperone was with them. While there is UAEU (United Arab Emirates University), available to Emiratis, it is also open to Arabs from other countries. Emirati women and their families wanted their daughters to obtain the equivalent of a Western education.

The leaders of the UAE want every citizen to contribute to social and economic development and they recognize education is the key to this goal. Zayed University was based after the American education model. The faculty was educated in the U.S., Canada, UK, Australia or New Zealand. This university gave the Emirati women a chance to get as good a higher education as the men, but without leaving the country.

Sonleitner wrote a proposal for a Nutrition,

Education and Wellness (NEW for the UAE) program that would provide nutritional education and counseling about eating disorders, as well as offer presentations on health and well being. This Program was funded and the educational presentations helped students and their families deal with nutrition issues.

Sonleitner and colleagues also investigated Western faculty adjustment and adaptation of teaching in a non-western teaching/learning environment. Results of this study have been presented at professional conferences and a paper also has been published.

Sonleitner is originally from Norman, Oklahoma. She has three daughters: Bonnie, Catherine and Carol. Bonnie is currently attending graduate school at the University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center as she takes the next step toward a Nurse Practitioner degree specializing in neo-natal intensive care. Catherine has a Master’s in Educational Leadership and is a high school science teacher in Norman. Carol is an aerospace engineer.

She also has three grandchildren: Shelby, Ty and Ayn.

Sonleitner enjoys needle arts and crafts and is in the process of learning the capabilities of her second hand, high tech embroidery sewing machine.

She attends church at St. James Episcopal Church in Union City.

Bill would require THEC to provide more detail on articulation

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (AP) — A proposal that would make sure community college students have taken the appropriate courses before moving to a four-year institution is advancing in the House.

The administration bill carried by Education Committee Chairman Les Winningham, a Huntsville

Democrat, passed the committee on Wednesday.

It would require the Tennessee Higher Education Commission’s annual report to include information on the degree to which community colleges and universities require the same freshman and sophomore courses to satisfy degree require-

ments.

The companion bill has been retained in the Senate Education Committee since last month.

Read the full text of HB4096 on the General Assembly’s Web site at: <http://www.legislature.state.tn.us>

Students decide whether tanning is worth the risk

Casey Curlin
Pacer Writer

Warm weather is approaching, and UTM students who don’t want to be seen in a bathing suit with a pasty complexion from winter months indoors are flocking to the tanning beds, to knock off some of the pale.

They lie down on the clear surface surrounding the light bulbs and gratefully hit the start button to begin their indoor tanning experience. The long tubular bulbs flicker to life, giving off a brilliant blue glow.

The bed is warm—even hot—as they lie there soaking up the ultraviolet rays.

But seldom is any concern given to the effect the rays are having on the body, positive or negative.

It is common knowledge that tanning beds are a popular and often convenient way to darken the skin, but much research has been conducted to discern just how safe it is to subject oneself to their powerful bulbs.

Tanning beds are designed to replicate natural sunlight and along with the sun, produce different wavelengths of light: UVA and UVB rays.

Reed Hayes, owner of Sun Shop tanning salon in Martin, says UVB rays stimulate melanin, a dark skin pigment, to darken skin. The melanin then migrates to the surface of the skin. The UVA rays oxidize the copper in the melanocytes, which gives skin its brown color.

UVA rays penetrate the top two layers of skin and tend to age skin. Over time they shrink and weaken the dermis until it is unable to support the epidermis, causing the skin to sag and wrinkle. In the past, scientists believed that UVA rays were less likely to cause skin cancer or melanoma than UVB rays, but today it is thought to be the opposite.

UVB rays are shorter, reaching only the epidermis, but are responsible for causing sunburns. Sunburns in turn can be a cause of skin cancer, according to www.cancer.org, a Web site of the American Cancer Society.

Skin cancer and various types of melanoma are the reason many doctors and dermatologists recommend staying away from tanning beds.

Julie Floyd, UTM assistant professor of nursing, said, “With increased exposure comes increased risks of all types of skin cancers. Malignant melanoma has the highest mortality rate of the skin cancers. Radiation burns may be caused by the sun, tanning booths, or sunlamps.”

The American Cancer Society recognizes excessive or unprotected exposure to ultraviolet radiation as a risk factor for skin cancers, along with severe childhood sunburns and fair complexions. The American Academy of Dermatology also takes a strong stance against sun and tanning bed exposure because of the skin cancer risks

Still, tanning is a highly debated issue among dermatologists and indoor tanning companies. Legally, indoor tanning businesses are not allowed to say that indoor tanning is a safe practice; however, the companies and some dermatologists believe that if people tan in mod-

Tanning: Continued from page 4

eration, they can benefit from tanning without the great risk of skin cancer.

Vitamin D deficiencies are the major concern of the pro-tan view. According to Tanning Trends magazine, a pro-tan publication, Vitamin D is produced by the body from sunlight exposure. Vitamin D deficiencies have been linked to cardiovascular disease, osteoporosis, colon cancer, and other health problems.

"We are having children with rickets in this country because we don't allow kids to go out in the sunlight anymore," Hayes said. "They're slathered with sunscreen."

Vitamin D can be obtained from diet and supplements, but Hayes says it only takes about 10 to 15 minutes in sunlight on the face, neck, and arms to achieve sufficient Vitamin D levels.

Tanning beds have also been recommended by some doctors to help treat psoriasis and lymphoma.

"I have actually had customers whose doctors recommended tanning", said Denise Shaw, owner of Tanning World tanning salon in Martin.

Moderation is one tanning practice that many people supporting or opposing tanning can agree on.

"Moderation is the key,"

Shaw said. "It's like if you just take one Tylenol on occasion, then it won't hurt you, but if you take a whole bottle, it will."

"The burn is the real danger and I'm trying to re-educate people. We don't want people to burn, we want people to tan," says Hayes.

Although efforts have been made to make indoor tanning an illegal practice, Hayes says, tanning beds and indoor tanning facilities remain legal and provide the public with the freedom to decide whether lying under the ultraviolet rays is worth the risks or the benefits.

Food: Continued from Cover

enjoy doing because it gives our international students a chance to share their cultures with UTM and the community," Mathenia said.

Some of the countries represented at the fair were China, Taiwan, India, Mexico, Saudi Arabia, Japan and Korea. There were foods such as Bulgogi and Kim Chi, a Korean food, and Chinese pancakes and black tea.

Sachie Sato, a student from Tokyo, served Japanese fried chicken.

Sato said she liked American food, but with a caveat:

"I like it," Sato said. "But food in Japan is simpler. American food has more salt and sugar, and it is kind of oily."

Khaled Al-Motiri, a third-year student at UTM from Saudi Arabia, helped serve Saudi Arabian rice and chicken, which he said was common lunch fare.


"I really like American food," Al-Motiri said. "Fast food and steaks are good. We have many American fast food restaurants back home though."

See The Pacer online edition for a complete list of International Week events.

:-(Got something to say? :-(

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Campus Map

POLICE REPORT

The information contained in this report is taken directly from public records distributed by the UTM Department of Public Safety. DPS can be contacted by calling (731) 881-7777.

1 03/24/2008 at 8:00 am – University St. – Traffic citations issued to Jerry McMullin for failure to obey traffic direction and violation seat belt law (Martin Municipal Court).	a vehicle. Investigation continues.	for theft of property from a vehicle. Investigation continues.	Referred to Student Affairs.	9 03/29/2008 at 1:37 am – Lee St. – Traffic citation issued to James Lease for violation of registration (Martin Municipal Court).
2 03/24/2008 at 9:40 pm – Browning Hall – Report taken in reference to a suspicious person.	3 03/26/2008 at 10:41 pm – Martin Place – Arrest made of Joseph Howard for DWI and violation of the drinking age law.	5 03/28/2008 at 12:02 pm – Crisp Hall – Report taken for phone harassment. Investigation continues.	10 03/29/2008 at 1:34 am – Elam Center – Report taken for two separate knee injuries. No transport.	12 03/30/2008 at 12:12 am – Browning Hall – Fire alarm. False alarm.
03/25/2008 at 2:27 pm – Lot 13 – Report taken for theft of property from a vehicle. Investigation continues.	4 03/27/2008 at 1:28 am – Browning Hall – Arrest made of Abbie Butler for disorderly conduct and violation of the drinking age law.	03/28/2008 at 2:18 pm – University Center – Report taken for a verbal dispute. Referred to Student Affairs.	11 03/29/2008 at 6:56 pm – Elam Center – Report for an ankle injury. Patient was transported to Volunteer Community Hospital by EMS.	13 03/30/2008 at 4:27 pm – Ellington Hall – Report taken for a verbal dispute. Party separation.
03/26/2008 8:31 pm – Lot 14 – Report taken for theft of property from	03/27/2008 at 8:49 am – Lot 15 – Vehicle towed for excessive parking citations.	7 03/28/2008 at 7:23 pm – EPS – Report taken for lost property.		
	03/26/2008 at 2:00 am – Lot 13 – Report taken	8 03/28/2008 at 10:46 pm – Library – Report taken for a suspicious person.		

Campus Bulletin Board

Pacer Meetings

Want to write for the student newspaper? Pacer meetings are every Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. in Gooch 309. Come sign up for a story so that you can see your byline in next week's issue of the student newspaper.

Japanese Speaker

Suzuko Hamasaki will give

a lecture/demonstration entitled 'What Is the Way of Japanese Karate?' The event will take place today from 5:30-7 p.m. in Watkins Auditorium. It is free and open to the public.

Foreign Film Series

This week will feature two Japanese films. Wednesday's film will be Mina No Ie (All About Our House). Friday's

film, with an introduction by Daniel Nappo, will be Rashomon. Both films begin at 7 p.m. in the Watkins Auditorium and are free and open to the public.

Criminal Justice Career Day

The UTM Criminal Justice Society is sponsoring Criminal Justice Career Day from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Monday, April

7, in the UC Ballroom. Local, state and federal law enforcement agencies will have booths set up. Participating agencies include Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, U.S. Secret Service, Martin Police Department, UTM Department of Public Safety, Metropolitan Nashville Police, Weakley County Sheriff's Department, Federal Bureau of Investigation and the TWRA.

UTM Dance Ensemble pleases crowd with ‘Babel Unraveling’

Largely choreographed by students, show explores quest to transcend communication barriers in modern world

LaToya Brent
Pacer Writer

Last Thursday night the UT Martin Dance Ensemble took center stage at the Harriet Fulton Theatre. The show consisted of eight performances, six of which were choreographed by students. These performances were dynamic and full of expression. The fact that so many of them were put together by students made them more impressive. The theme for the evening was “Babel Unraveling.” “The difficulty of understanding all our different spoken and unspoken languages, alphabets and dialects can confuse communication in our world, creating confusion,” said Claudia Morris, Professor of Dance Education. “Babel

Unraveling’ alludes to the quest to unravel the confusion, to better understand each other in all the ways we communicate.” Morris choreographed the first and last performances of the night. The first was a tribute to a musical artist Angelique Kidjo and included two movements. The first movement was performed only by Christin Lewis. As Lewis danced, pictures from various news articles based on war-torn Sudan and Somalia were projected in the background. This piece was efficient in expressing the pain of these African lands. The next six performances were student choreographed and four of these were put together by students who were making their debut as choreogra-

phers. The student choreographers were Angela Kee, Kelly Grider, Alyssa Holland, Andrew Patterson and Ashley Spicer. Alyssa Holland made her debut with the fourth dance of the evening which was called “A Lost People.” Morris said that Holland has been running a dance studio since she was 16 but was new at choreographing for her peers. The dancers seemed to be acting out the words to the music that was

playing. Andrew Patterson was also one of the students making a debut with the fifth and seventh performances. The first of his two was entitled “Juntos Nos Perdimos en el Ritmo del Amor,” which means ‘together we got lost in the rhythm of love.’ This dance had a sultry, Latin vibe that evoked energy from the audience. Morris said that all the first-time choreographers did a splendid job.

During an intermission of sorts, Morris told the audience that the ensemble had been planning for Thursday night since September. The Dance Ensemble is a two credit hour course that meets twice a week, but there were many extra rehearsals scheduled outside of class time. Also in preparation for the night, the student choreographers had to get their own casts together. “Now that’s fortitude and dedication,” said Morris of her students. Ensemble members are not all dance majors, and also include elementary education, pharmacology and English majors. Dance is a way for them to express themselves and communicate with others in a way that doesn’t in-

volve everyday methods of communication. The dancers seemed to be enjoying themselves and enjoying being part of the ensemble. Morris was escorted onto the stage at the end by Andrew Patterson as they danced to a Latin beat. They then engaged the audience by pulling some people up on stage to dance and having all the ensemble members come back out and join in. Morris appeared to be having a great time and to be very proud of her students. As she said in an article in last week’s issue of The Pacer, “It is so satisfying to see how they (students) have worked so hard for that moment on stage.”

UTM artists to be recognized at upcoming event

University Relations

The Department of Visual and Theatre Arts at the University of Tennessee at Martin and the West Tennessee Regional Art Center in Humboldt, will present the eighth annual Artists of the 21st Century exhibition of college artists from all southeastern states. This year’s juror was Armon Means, gallery director of the Renaissance Center in Dickson. Means selected 26 works of art from 18 young artists that will be on display in the exhibition that range from painting, photography and various three-dimensional media. Seven artists from UT Martin were selected for the exhibition. Artists from colleges and universities from five states submitted works for the competition.

The exhibition continues through April 24. The opening reception is April 3, from 5-7 p.m. Awards will be announced at approximately 6:30 p.m. The public and media are invited to attend. The West Tennessee Regional Art Center is located at 1200 Main St., Humboldt, Tenn. 38343. Students participating in the exhibits include Nici Stout, of Martin; Nicole Bell, of Franklin; John Mistic, of Dyer; Laura Hensley, of Morris Chapel; Chi-Yun Huang, of Taipei, Taiwan; Daniel Rose, of Dyersburg; Nicholas D’Acquisto, of Bethel Springs; and David Klinkefus, of South Fulton. Contact Bill Hickerson, director of the WTRAC, at 731-784-1787 for more information about the exhibition, directions or the opening event.



PAULA COMERLATO / The Pacer

Writing Center to celebrate international literature

Staff Reports

The Hortense Parrish Writing Center will hold a special event this Wednesday in conjunction with UT Martin’s International Week. The event, entitled “Literature from Other Cultures: A Roundtable,” will feature approximately nine students who will each

share a selected work of literature from his or her native country. The readers will first present their selected text in their native language and then provide a brief translation in English. Countries that will be represented include Japan, Honduras, South Africa, Columbia, France, Saudi Arabia and Senegal.

MED fraternity hosts annual dodgeball tournament

Event benefits Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation

LoEva Jackson
Pacer Writer

The medical student fraternity Mu Epsilon Delta sponsored their annual dodge ball tournament on Saturday, March 29 in the Student Life building. The organization hosts this event for two main purposes: as a fundraiser to support the Christopher and Dana Reeve Foundation and to raise awareness for spinal cord injuries, and to benefit the Mobility Project, an organization out of Washington that nationally collects wheelchairs, crutches and other items that are then donated to international locations to aid those that cannot afford them. This event also enables the members of MED and the student body to raise funds and awareness for serious health concerns on a global scale. This year’s tournament consisted of the very first faculty team and organizations from campus including Mu Epsilon Delta, Alpha Kappa Psi Fraternity, Sigma Chi Fraternity and the University Scholars.

The games got off to a very interesting start, as one by one, members were eliminated by flying dodge balls. The members of the MED team kept every team they played on their toes and on the floor, literally. The game got interesting when the four member faculty team had trouble defeating a one member Alpha Kappa Psi member. It all ended when MED defeated Sigma Chi fraternity in the championship and took home the winning certificate. While teams played on the floor, members of other teams relaxed and enjoyed cold Monster energy drinks, provided by Sigma Chi. Live entertainment was provided by the tournament players that kept the audience members very enthused. The networking goal of MED is to work with other organizations, especially those at UTM, to achieve other humanitarian goals. Drew Landerman, the executive director of MED, was the lead organizer in this event.



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Students participate in the Sigma Chi fraternity’s talent show, held last Thursday in Watkins Auditorium. The proceeds from the show will benefit the Huntsman Cancer Institute.

UTM Student debuts computer-animated movie

80s inspired ‘Power of the Night’ turns out crowd of students

Tiffany Sanders
Pacer Writer

Casey McCasland premiered his self-made movie, “Power of the Night,” Thursday, March 27 in the Boling University Center. The movie began with an ex-cop losing his best friend to a drug deal gone bad, and in the mean time meeting the girl of his dreams. This story becomes a love that will have to “fight the boundaries of the underground” to survive. The movie was based on the 80s hit show “Miami Vice,” and was a love story and an action adventure all rolled into one. The showing had a great turnout. About 30 UTM students came to watch the computer-animated film. McCasland was very pleased with the number of people that attended. The viewers really seemed to enjoy the movie. As a result of this, the American Heartbeat Radio organization, run by McCasland, is seeing an increase in its membership. “This goes to show that these movies still have a fan base,” McCasland said. “If Hollywood would recognize this and quit

making those terrible remakes, they would have a lot more support.” McCasland said he would not change one thing about the movie. He is very proud of what he created and is proud of everyone who was involved. Playing the role of Eric, an owner of a night club, Jon Quinn said he really liked the movie. Regarding his acting, Quinn said he could have done better, but this was only his second time doing a voiceover. As for the movie, Quinn said, “Considering we didn’t have any funding and that everything was done by students, I thought it was really good. It was cool.” Not everyone shared Quinn’s feelings on “Power of the Night.” “I did not enjoy the movie. It was difficult to follow, and there was not enough dialogue,” said Robert Cunningham, who went to the debut. “I had no clue what was going on during the entire movie.” The American Heartbeat Radio group is starting to hold movie nights every Thursday night in the UC. They will focus on movies that were made in the 80s, and every other week they will show double features.

“I had no clue what was going on during the entire movie.”

- Robert Cunningham
Audience member



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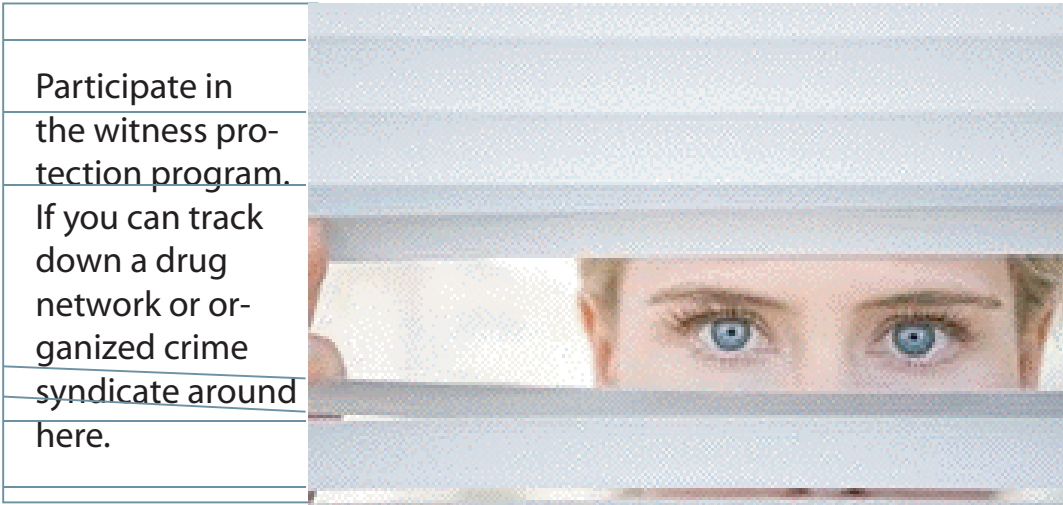
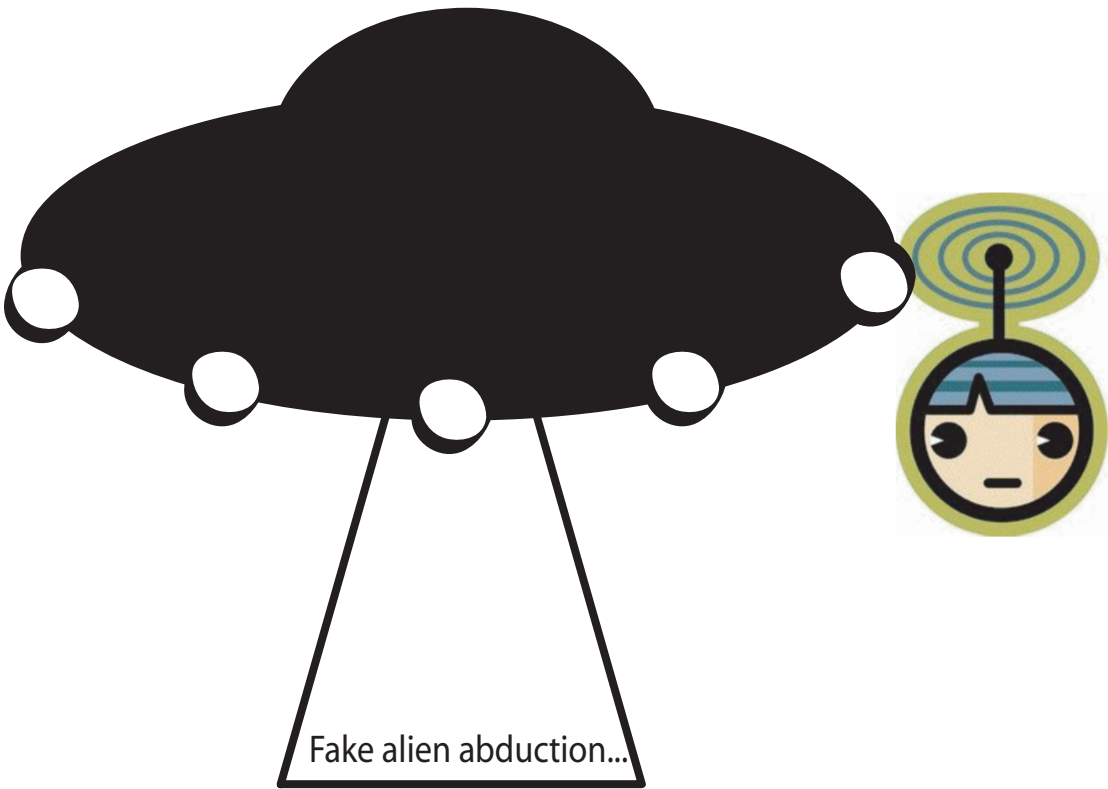
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Same news, less ink stains

5 ways to get out of student loan debt...

April Fools' style

by Karen Langdon



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From the Geek Corner

Too much of a good thing?

Often, here in the Technophile, we showcase many new gadgets and must have bits of technology to make you, the reader, better aware of hot new innovation coming out into the market. However, while innovation grows exponentially over time the question becomes whether or not one can have too much of a good thing.

President of Innosite, an innovation consulting and investing company. Scott Anthony wrote a blog post entitled "Innovation Gone Overboard." In this post Anthony begs the same question I asked above. His general point is that companies go overboard to pacify the general public and somehow offer them more than they really need.

Subsequently, those on the net discussing this article brought up the example of a television remote. Take a look at the one you own and you will notice the mass amount of additional buttons it has above and beyond the standard volume, channel and on/off switch. Most of the buttons on my own remote go unused so why is it that some feel that they need more?

As an additional example Anthony mentions keyless entry automobiles. Being able to open your doors and start your car without using the key in the traditional since sounds like a great idea, but there are other issues that most don't think about before jumping on the latest trend. In the case



Dave Thomas
Wendy's
Founder

of keyless entry the convenience factor fades away when your key runs out of battery or becomes defective somehow. At that point it's much better to just have a key to put in a lock and open your door. Essentially, sometimes the old fashion way is better than using the latest technology.

Now, I'm the first person to carry the banner of innovation but Anthony does have a good point. At some point too much innovation is a bad thing. However, this little problem is all from being solved. We, as consumers, continue to express a need for bigger (or smaller these days) and better technology. Shaving seconds of menial tasks that occur on a day to day basis has become the largest demand of the consumer. As long as we keep begging companies to serve us with more than we need, but as much as we think we need then this issue will continue to compound.

So keep this point in mind the next time you pick up the latest piece of technology and ask yourself before you drown your wallet whether or not you really need what you are buying or if you truly want it. As always, be a wise consumer and you will be helping not only yourself but others as well.

"Companies go overboard to pacify the general public."



www.naymz.com

Monica Collins
Pacer Writer

Naymz.com is a site that allows you to build your professional reputation and help potential clients, employers and business contacts find you. As a member of Naymz.com, you will create a business-oriented profile that includes a bio, photo, employer and contact information.

Also with your Naymz account, you can post links to other sites that show your success as a professional and paint a picture of who you are. Popular links in this feature include a company website, social network such as Facebook or MySpace, online photo albums, blogs or other sites that reflect your identity.

One feature that sets Naymz apart from a personal website is the fact that people you know or have worked with can verify the information you post. Seeing that others back up what you say about yourself can help your professional reputation take off.

Naymzisalsoanetworking tool for professionals. Members can connect with others who share common interests, professions and backgrounds by using the Reputation Network and

Community Search Engine features.

Another means of self-promotion is making your information available to others. Naymz submits your profile and information to popular search engines like Google so that when your name is searched, the information you have posted comes up in the results.

While you can control what information you post on the web, you may not know what others are saying about you online. Naymz has a Reputation Monitor that helps you look out for personal information posted online about you. Naymz also has a Visit Reports feature that tells you information about those who visit your personal profile.

Naymz.com is a tool for professionals to build a reputation, network with other professionals and allow others to find out about you as a professional. Other options offered at Naymz include a job search, professional video profile, and creating information for search engines so that unwanted information on the web does not override your personal profile when a search is conducted about you.



Sirius and XM's merger might mean a new radio era

LaToya Brent
Pacer Writer

Sirius and XM satellite radio providers have merged to create premier audio entertainment with a stronger capacity for future innovation, better pricing for customers and more programming choices.

The companies felt that this was the next logical step to take in the advancement of satellite radio. The merger will eliminate some duplicative programming and lower the costs of advertising that the companies were incurring due to competition between each other. Richard Robinson, UTM Communications Instructor and of WUTM, said, "Both companies from the beginning haven't made a profit. This is because many people just will not grasp the idea of paying for radio broadcasts."

The merged companies do offer a wide range of commercial-free music, exclusive and non-exclusive sports coverage, news, talk and entertainment programming. However, there are various other

mediums by which this same programming can be obtained without paying another monthly subscription fee such as the Internet, iPods and cable TV just to name a few. Robison said, "If I want to listen to something other than what's on the radio, there are other ways."

The merger will include the development of new aspects of satellite radio such as real-time traffic reports and updates and rear-seat video. The companies also plan to introduce a wider range of lower cost, easy-to-use devices. Another plus of the merger will be lower priced subscription packages. Current subscribers of either company will not pay any more than the \$12.95 a month that they already pay. Any pre-merger plans will still be honored. Also any radios or other compatible equipment subscribers currently use will be fully supported

within the merger now and for years to come.

The companies will also provide parental controls to allow parents to block satellite radio channels they feel are inappropriate. This is important for parents because some of the hip-hop, sexually based and other programming provided by satellite radio is not appropriate for young children.

With the number of automobile

manufacturers including satellite radio as a feature on new cars increasing the merger will also affect these deals. "It will be interesting to see what car companies will do," said Robinson. When cars come equipped with satellite radio, usually a one-year subscription is given to the purchaser. Many don't keep the subscription up after that one year; going back to the idea of having to pay for radio.

This merger required approval from the Justice Department's antitrust division and had to be considered in the public interest by the Federal Communications Commission. The antitrust division of the Justice Department's job is to defend against monopolies. This merger would not be considered as a monopolizing situation because there are so many other ways to generate audio entertainment. Local radio broadcasters still have the largest audience.

The companies feel that the merger benefits outweigh the risks. They are all about offering customers more choices at a greater value. The companies want to communicate with subscribers about upcoming changes and benefits. They have dedicated a website to upholding this communication, www.siriusmerger.com, which they will continue to update as more decisions are made.

"If I want to listen to something other than what's on the radio, there are other ways."

Safety and security veteran keeps tech resources ready

Charlie McIntosh
Technology Editor

At UT Martin's Crisp Hall, veteran Campus Safety Officer Ted Council can be found on Monday and Tuesday of every week, waiting for the opportunity to handle the dirty jobs on campus that are considered too tough to handle.

Too tough to handle in this instance is quite literal. Council is in charge of clearing out any and all hazardous wastes that might be found on campus. Although UTM is classified as a "conditionally exempt generator" of hazardous materials, in the rare instance that environmentally dangerous waste is found, Council is the man people call.

"When you're dealing with any sort of hazardous chemicals or materials, you're talking about a careful and expensive process," Council said. "Although we don't run into hazardous wastes often, when someone does then I have to take over."

As Council approaches his fortieth year of employment at UTM, the retired Director of Public Safety was more than happy to reflect on past occurrences where hazardous materials were discovered on campus.

"I remember a few years ago, a bottle of picric

acid was found in Gooch Hall, left over from an old science lab," Council said. "This vial of picric acid had crystallized over time, and when picric acid crystallizes it has the potential to become an explosive. I had to make the order for UTM to spend the \$5000 needed to contract an outside company to pick it up and dispose of it."

Council does admit that at times disposal isn't completely necessary. He encourages science and agriculture professors, who deal with hazardous materials the most, to recycle what is left over whenever they can.

Thanks to his years of service for Safety and Security, Council could also be considered one of the campus' foremost experts on emergency response and safety codes. Council has a staff of student workers who go from building to building on campus, checking fire extinguishers and lab equipment, making sure that everything is fully functional in case of emergency. Aside from

his student workers' inspections, Council also makes rounds of his own.

"Annually I make my own inspection of the campus," Council said. "I personally go from room to room and make sure that electrical outlets are covered and that there aren't any major fire hazards."

Council said that in this respect, his job is comparable to that of an on-campus fire marshal, although "there are plenty of differences." In recent months, one of the more unique projects that kept Council the busiest was an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) safety audit, which the University paid \$26000 to take part in this year.

"For about the past year, we've been taking part in an EPA self-audit," Council said. "We make sure that every condition is within EPA guidelines, and also try to update outdated facilities on campus." Council said that while the self-audit has been "an expensive venture," it has certainly helped to improve

emergency response on campus.

Council also refers to other ventures such as the TNCAT-07 Earthquake drills, which UTM took part in last June.

"By partaking in things like EPA audits and TNCAT, the campus has made some great connections in the area," Council said. "Our emergency response plans have improved so much now that we have so much more equipment and resources available to us in the case of a disaster. I'm especially happy to see us using the ham radio as an alert system."

UTM's Department of Safety and Security will be taking part in the TNCAT-07 Earthquake drills again this summer.

While Council looks forward to his future at UTM, he isn't afraid to look back on his time as Safety and Security Director.

"I'll always remember, years ago, going to Ellington Hall to talk with the campus streakers," Council said. "We told them that we wouldn't chase them, but if we caught them they would get arrested. These two old women had come to UTM from Fulton just to see the college kids do the 'super streak.'"

"Moments like that make me really happy to have worked at UTM."

"When you're dealing with any sort of hazardous chemicals or materials, you're talking about a careful and expensive process,"



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Softball wins two on the road before dropping home OVC opener in extras

John Summers
Sports Editor

The UT Martin softball team picked up two Ohio Valley Conference victories on the road before falling in the thrilling OVC home opener on Saturday.

In a doubleheader on Tuesday, the Skyhawks crushed Austin Peay, 14-3 and 8-3.

In the first game, sophomore outfielder Ashley Benbow collected three hits, scored three runs and had one home run and six RBI, a single-game UTM record, to lead the way. UTM collected 15 hits as a team and capitalized on six Austin Peay errors. Junior Kara Harper pitched a complete game to pick up her fifth win of the season.

Sophomore catcher Laurie Lindow collected three hits and four RBI in the second game of the twin bill. Senior Ashton Strode also pitched a complete game and picked up her sixth win of the year.

On Saturday, after a rain delay of over three hours, the Skyhawks hosted their first OVC game of the year against Eastern Illinois.

The Skyhawks fell behind early, giving up four runs in the first two innings. In the fourth, sophomore third baseman Megan Van Arsdale hit a deep home run to left field to cut the score to 4-2.

UTM continued to chip away and tied the game at four in the sixth inning on a sacrifice fly by Benbow. The score would remain tied into extra innings.

In the top of the tenth inning, Eastern Illinois took the lead when a run came around to score after a throwing error by junior shortstop Greer Long that would have been the last out of the inning.

In the bottom of the tenth, the Skyhawks loaded the bases but Eastern Illinois



Sophomore outfielder Megan Williams prepares to slide during Saturday's 5-4 loss to Eastern Illinois. (University Relations/Trevor Ruszkowski)

squelched the rally to win the game, 5-4.

Harper pitched all 10 innings for another complete game but dropped to 5-6 on the year even though she only gave up

two earned runs.

Sunday's doubleheader was cancelled because of rain, and the games will not likely be made up.

The Skyhawks now stand at 15-16 overall and 3-4 in

OVC play on the year. They return to action Wednesday when they host Evansville at 4 p.m. They will also travel to Tennessee Tech for a three-game series on Saturday and Sunday.

Baseball drops three despite strong play

UTM Athletic Communications

The UT Martin baseball team performed well, but still dropped three games during the last week.

UT Martin head baseball coach Bubba Cates told his team Tuesday afternoon, after a disappointing 12-6 loss to visiting Arkansas State, "this was the first time we did not come to play in a long time."

"I thought this was a winnable ballgame for us today," Cates said.

Arkansas State jumped out to a 7-0 lead before the Skyhawks could answer back with four runs in the bottom of the third inning.

Arkansas State added three runs in the top of the sixth and never looked back.

"Somewhere in there we have to quit chasing and start leading," Cates said. "We had opportunities to do things and take the lead, but we didn't do it today."

The visitors roughed up Skyhawk starter Will Blackmon for seven runs on seven hits. With the loss, Blackmon falls to 0-2 on the year. Senior Calen Sutton finished up the game for Blackmon. Sutton worked 6.1 innings and scattered 10 hits and five runs.

The Skyhawks managed 11 hits in the contest. Carden and Scott Gladstone had three hits each, while Dudley had two hits and three RBI.

Less than 24 hours after

his team let a victory slip away, UT Martin head baseball coach Bubba Cates and his Skyhawks managed to correct some of the problems against Southern Illinois.

While the Skyhawk pitching held up against the host Salukis at Abe Martin Field in Carbondale, the Skyhawk bats were silent.

The Salukis scored one run in the bottom of the seventh inning and two runs in the bottom of the eighth inning to claim a 6-3 victory over the Skyhawks Wednesday afternoon.

"We didn't do enough with our bats to cause them any problems," Cates said. The Skyhawks managed five hits off three Saluki pitchers.

UT Martin junior Bryce Carden hit a solo home run in the fourth inning to make it a 2-1 game. SIU made it a 3-1 game when Tyler Lairson drove in Dean Cademartori with a single to center field. Cademartori opened the inning with a double down the left field line off Skyhawk relief pitcher Eric Walker.

The Salukis scored one run in the seventh inning off junior Lin Cates and then added two more runs in the bottom of the eighth by taking advantage of two of the Skyhawks' four errors in the game.

Lantz worked the first three innings and gave up three hits and no earned runs. Walker pitched one inning and gave up two

hits and one earned run. Cates, who suffered his fourth loss of the season, pitched four innings and gave up three hits and one earned run.

"We pitched well today," said head coach Bubba Cates. I was pleased with our pitching. If you look at the earned runs allowed in the game this should have been a 2-1 ballgame."

UT Martin junior Scott Gladstone went 2-for-3 at the plate with a home run and four RBI, and the Skyhawks roughed up the Ohio Valley Conference and Southeast Missouri State's best pitcher, James Leigh, for six runs on eight hits.

Leigh entered Saturday's OVC contest with a league best 0.75 ERA and was ranked among the nation's leaders.

Fortunately for Leigh, his Southeast Missouri State teammates tagged three Skyhawk pitchers for 17 hits and 19 runs in a game that was called after five innings because of darkness. Southeast Missouri State claimed a 19-6 victory.

Nick Harris led the visiting Redhawks with three hits, two home runs, six RBI and three runs scored. Jim Klocke, Tyrell Cummings, Justin Wheeler, Matt Wagner, Trenton Moses and Matt Wulfers had two hits each in the game. Wagner and Moses also had home runs.

The Redhawks scored

two runs in each of the first three innings and added five runs in the fourth and eight in the fifth inning.

The Skyhawks put three runs on the board in the bottom of the third inning when Gladstone delivered his second home run of the season to left center field.

Miles Hartsfield hit his first homer of the season in the bottom of the fifth to plate two of the Skyhawks' three runs in the inning. The Skyhawks finished the game with eight hits. Freshman Drew Mason went 2-for-3 at the plate with a double.

Leigh picked up his fifth win of the year on the mound. He pitched all five innings. He struck out four and gave up one walk.

Eric Walker suffered the loss for the Skyhawks. He's 1-4 on the season. Walker pitched three innings and gave up seven hits and eight runs. He walked two and struck out one. Adam Bowker and Shawn McElyea pitched one inning each.

With the loss the Skyhawks fall to 1-19 on the year and 0-4 in the early OVC race. Southeast Missouri State improves to 10-8 overall and 3-1 in the league standings.

UTM will travel to Arkansas State on Tuesday, play Lipscomb Wednesday at Union City and travel to Eastern Illinois for a three-game series on Saturday and Sunday.

Equestrian team selected to compete at nationals

UTM Athletic Communications

The UT Martin equestrian team was selected Tuesday to compete in the 2008 Varsity Equestrian National Championships.

The Skyhawk hunter seat squad was seeded 11th at the national competition, while the western team will participate as the 12 seed. Stephanie Sanders, a freshman from Henry, Tenn., was also chosen to compete as an individual in the national horsemanship competition, one of just four western riders in the nation to have been selected.

"We are very excited, especially to have the western team selected as well this year," says second-year head coach Meghan Cunningham-Corvin.

Last year, the Skyhawks' first year as a varsity team, the hunter seat squad was seeded ninth at the 2007 VENC.

Twelve schools were nominated for the team competitions in both equestrian disciplines, western and

hunter seat, and four individual riders were selected to compete in each of the four equestrian events, equitation on the flat, equitation over fences, western horsemanship and western reining.

Sanders will be seeded third out of four in the horsemanship event. In eight meets this year, Sanders won seven of her horsemanship head-to-heads, and collected three MVP honors.

"Stephanie is certainly a contender for a national championship," the coach said. "She's had an exceptional season and this is just a great recognition for her."

The VENC will be held in Waco, Texas, April 17-19. The UTM hunter seat squad will face sixth-seed Baylor in the first round on Thursday. The western team will compete against fifth-seed Kansas State. Sanders will compete on Saturday for the individual national title in horsemanship.

Hinson tied for lead headed into final round at Branson

UTM Athletic Communications

UT Martin sophomore Sam Hinson finds himself atop the leader board at the 2008 Branson Creek Invitational after a first-round 2-under-par 69.

Hinson is tied with Tommy Bliefnick of Illinois State, who also carded a 2-under-par 69 in round one. As a team the Skyhawks struggled on the greens, firing a 9-over-par 297, but still find themselves in seventh place and only 12-strokes off the lead.

The Branson Creek Invitational is a 36-hole event conducted by Missouri State University and hosted at one of America's top 100 public courses, Branson Creek Golf Club in Hollister, Mo. The 72-player field consists of 12 teams with 12 participants competing as individuals. The par-71 Branson Creek golf course plays at 7,036 yards in length.

Golfers fought through rain showers that hovered over Branson Creek Golf Club and 20 mph winds; first-round action barely finished before play was halted for the day. With the second-round unable to be completed today, the format was adjusted from its original 54-hole schedule to a two-day 36-hole tournament.

"We hit the ball really well through the green, especially for the weather conditions," said Skyhawk head coach Jerry Carpenter. "We just struggled with putting today and it cost us at least five strokes."

Hinson hit the ball well all day and was able to figure out the greens early en route to carding the lowest round of his collegiate career. Prior to today's round, Hinson's best finish came in the first event of the season when he finished in a tie for 30th at the Wasioto Winds Fall Kick-Off, where

he recorded his previous low collegiate round of 2-under-par 70.

The rest of the Skyhawk squad hit the ball well, but were unable to capitalize on scoring opportunities on and around the greens. Bradley Stevens carded a 3-over-par 74, and Cole Floyd turned in a 4-over-par 75. Both Stevens and Floyd are among the top 30 individuals and are only five and six strokes off the lead respectively. Bailey Childress had a quality round going



Hinson

until it was unraveled with a four-putt, dropping him into a tie for 61st position at 8-over-par 79. John Slayton struggled to find his way, recording a 9-over-par 80 on the day.

Playing as an individual, freshman Jake Joyner fired a 1-over-par 36 on the front nine, but found struggles on the back nine, carding a 7-over-par 78. Joyner currently sits in a tie for 56th position in the individual competition.

"Overall we are still in good shape going into the final round, we just have to capitalize on the opportunities we let get away today. The weather will be better tomorrow and there will be a lot of chances to turn in a good score, we just have to take advantage of them," said Carpenter.

Final-round action is set to tee-off with an 8:30 a.m. shotgun start Tuesday morning.